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June 28, 1982

Proposed Regulations

Reporter

47 FR 27873

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Title: Approval and Promulgation of Implementation Plans; North Carolina: Revised SO[2] Emission Limits

Action: Proposed rule.

Agency

FEDERAL REGISTER

Identifier: [A-4-FRL 2110-8]

Administrative Code Citation

40 CFR Part 52

Synopsis

SUMMARY: EPA is today proposing to approve, with specified exceptions, a revised sulfur dioxide (SO[2]) emission limit for lightweight aggregate processes and other fuel burning installations in North Carolina. The North Carolina State Implementation Plan (SIP) approved in 1972 specified an SO[2] limit of 1.6 pounds per million British thermal units (#/MBTU) of heat input. North Carolina submitted revisions to the SIP on March 22, 1977, and additional information on January 11, 1982, relaxing the limit to 2.3 #/MBTU for all but 24 of the affected sources. These 24 sources will continue to be subject to the applicable 1.6 #/MBTU SO[2] limit. This change will have only a minor effect on ambient air quality and will not cause any violation of the SO[2] National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). You are invited to submit written comments on EPA's proposal to approve these revisions in the North Carolina SIP.

Text

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On March 22, 1977, North Carolina submitted to EPA SIP revisions changing the SO₂ emission limits in regulations 15 NCAC 2D .0511 and .0516. A public hearing was held on these revisions on December 8, 1976. They were made effective as of April 1, 1977, by the North Carolina Environmental Management Commission. The revisions removed the requirement that fuel burning sources of SO₂ reduce their emissions from 2.3 #/MBTU of heat input to 1.6 #/MBTU by July 1, 1980, as required by regulation .0516. In addition, the SO₂ limit for lightweight aggregate processes in regulation .0511 was relaxed from 1.6 to 2.3 #/MBTU.

The original requirement that emissions be reduced to 1.6 #/MBTU on July 1, 1980 is not needed, in most cases, to attain or maintain the SO₂ NAAQS. The original requirement was based upon a projection of plentiful amounts of cleaner fuels. The reduction in the availability of cleaner fuels in the late seventies caused North Carolina and other states to review their environmental regulations. Certain emission limits were found to be more stringent than necessary to attain and maintain the NAAQS. The regulations proposed today relax allowable emission limits of this type, but no actual increase in emissions is expected as a result of this action.

After review of the revisions submitted by North Carolina, EPA requested additional information. In response to EPA's request, North Carolina on January 11, 1982, submitted air quality dispersion modeling and related analyses of the impact of SO₂ emissions from the affected sources. The submittal identified 24 sources for which approval of the 2.3 # limit cannot be granted based upon the information submitted. The analyses showed that the NAAQS probably would not be protected if the following 24 sources were allowed to emit at the higher limit:

Source	County
Cannon Mills	Catawba.
Fiber Industries	Cleveland.
Pfizer	Brunswick.
Seymour-Johnson	Wayne.
Texasgulf	Beaufort.
Duke-Allen	Gaston.
Duke-Cliffside	Rutherford/Cleveland.
Cranston Print Works	Henderson.
American Enka	Buncombe.
Dayco Southern	Haywood.
Olin Corporation	Transylvania.
Appalachian State Univ	Watauga.
Travenol Labs	McDowell.
Alba Waldensian, P&W Plant	Burke.
Valdese Manufacturing	Burke.
Estech General Chemical	Brunswick.

Source	County
USS Agrichem	Brunswick.
Hercofina	New Hanover.
Cannon Mills No. 1	Cabarrus.
Liggett & Meyers	Durham.
Burlington	Durham.
Dorothea Dix	Wake
Reynolds-Whitaker Park	Forsyth.
Fiber Ind	Rowan.

North Carolina indicated in the submittal of additional information that the above-listed sources would be further analyzed. The purpose of the additional analyses will be to determine what emission limit will be necessary to assure maintenance of the NAAQS for sulfur dioxide.

Proposed Action

EPA today proposed to approve revisions to the North Carolina Air Quality Regulations 15 NCAC 2D .0511 and .0516 except for their application to the 24 sources listed above. These sources will continue to be subject to the 1.6#/MMBTU SO₂ standard pending further analysis.

Under [5 U.S.C. 605\(b\)](#), the Administrator has certified that SIP approvals do not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. (See *46 FR 8709*.)

Under Executive Order 12291, today's action is not "Major". It has been submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review.

List of Subjects in 40 CFR Part 52

Air Pollution control, Ozone, Sulfur oxides, Nitrogen dioxide, Lead, Particulate matter, Carbon monoxide, Hydrocarbons.

(Sec. 110 of the Clean Air Act ([42 U.S.C. 7410](#)))

Dated: May 14, 1982.

Charles R. Jeter,

Regional Administrator.

[FR Doc. 82-17360 Filed 6-25-82; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6560-50-M

Dates

DATE: Your comments must be received on or before July 28, 1982.

Contacts

ADDRESSES: You may send comments to Raymond S. Gregory of EPA Region IV's Air Programs Branch (see EPA Region IV address below). You may examine copies of the materials submitted by North Carolina during normal business hours at the following locations:

Public Information Reference Unit, Library Systems Branch, Environmental Protection Agency, 401 M Street SW., Washington, D.C. 20460

Environmental Protection Agency, Region IV, Air Programs Branch, 345 Courtland Street NE., Atlanta, Georgia 30365

Division of Environmental Management, N.C. Dept of Natural Resources and Community Development, Archdale Building, 512 North Salisbury Street, Raleigh, North Carolina 27611.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Raymond S. Gregory of the EPA Region IV Air Programs Branch at the above address, telephone 404/881-3286 (FTS 257-3286).

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